

Appl. No. 09/539,749
Reply Filed: April 22, 2004
Reply to Office Action of Oct. 28, 2003

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action of October 28, 2003, the Applicant submits this Reply. In view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks, reconsideration is requested.

Claims 1-6, 9, 11-12, 14 and 25-30 remain in this application, of which claims 1, 6, 9, 12 and 25 are independent. (16 total claims of which 5 are independent). Applicant previously paid for 24 total claims, of which 9 were independent. Accordingly, no fee is due for claims for this amendment.

In the foregoing amendments, claims 1, 6, 9, 11, 12 and 14 have been amended, claims 7-8, 10, 13 and 15-24 have been cancelled, and claims 25-30 have been added.

In view of the cancellation of claims 8, 10, 13 and 15-24, the rejections of these claims under 35 U.S.C. §102 are moot and are not addressed in this Reply.

Objections to the Specification and Drawings

The foregoing amendments to the specification overcome the objections made to both the drawings and the specification. The specification has been amended to conform to the drawings as filed.

Rejection of Claims 1-7 and 9-15 Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-7, 9-20 and 22-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 in view of U.S. Patent 5,659,793 ("Escobar"). Of these claims, claims 1-6, 9, 11-12 and 14 remain, of which claims 1, 6, 9 and 12 are independent. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Escobar is relied upon in the Office Action (in connection with the rejection of claim 1) for teaching that "part or all of an application under development [may] be run and displayed at a location specified, typically in the Display/Edit Window 100, so that the impact of the decisions made in editing of a portion or all of an application may be viewed under run time conditions." Escobar, col. 6, lines 41-45.

All of the independent claims have been amended to clarify the limitation regarding the "display location." In particular, independent claim 1 has been amended to recite "a layout specification defining a spatial relationship among the temporal and nontemporal media in a display area, wherein the layout specification indicates, for each track of the one or more first tracks and one or more second tracks with a portion of the display area in which media from the

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track will be displayed.” Similar limitations regarding a “layout specification” are found in independent claims 6 and 9. In independent claim 12, the term “layout specification” is not used, however, the claims recite a similar limitation in the “spatial relationship among the temporal media and the nontemporal media in a display area including an indication for each track in the timeline a portion of the display area in which media from the track will be displayed.” These limitations are distinct from Escobar’s Display/Edit Window 100 or other “location” at which the application being edited in Escobar’s system may be displayed.

Accordingly, the rejection of independent claims 1, 6, 9 and 12 is traversed. The remaining claims are dependent claims that are allowable for at least the same reasons.

In addition, regarding independent claim 6, which includes a limitation of a “table of contents track,” the Office Action relies on Escobar’s teaching that “at least one interactive object track 160 should be included.” Escobar, col. 6, lines 26-28. The “table of contents track” as claimed specifically includes “nontemporal media includ[ing] one or more elements comprising one or more characters, each associated with a point in time on the table of contents track.” In use, the table of contents track is claimed as follows: “wherein selection by the user of the displayed characters of the one or more elements in the table of contents track initiates display of the temporal and nontemporal media from the point in time of the selected element.”

The Office Action does not indicate where Escobar teaches that an element on the interactive program track may be selected by a user to initiate display of the temporal and nontemporal media from the point in time of the selected element. Accordingly, the rejection of claim 6 is traversed for this additional reason.

New Claims

Claims 25-30 are new, of which claim 25 is independent. Claim 25 also includes a limitation similar to that found in claim 12 regarding the “spatial relationship” of the temporal and nontemporal media in a display area. Accordingly, claim 25 is allowable for at least the same reasons. The remaining claims 26-30 are dependent claims that are allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 25.

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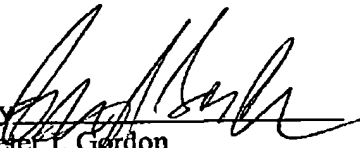
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application should now be in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, after this reply, that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicants hereby request any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, please charge any fee to **Deposit Account No. 50-0876**.

Respectfully submitted,

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